

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Call to Order: Chairman Mike Jopek, on February 3, 2009 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 472 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Mike Jopek, Chairman (D)
Rep. Julie French, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Russell Bean (R)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. John Fleming (D)
Rep. Timothy Furey (D)
Rep. Brian Hoven (R)
Rep. David Howard (R)
Rep. Krayton Kerns (R)
Rep. Margaret MacDonald (D)
Rep. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Rep. Lee Randall (R)
Rep. Keith Regier (R)
Rep. J. David Roundstone (D)
Rep. Janna Taylor (R)
Rep. Bob Wagner (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Wendy Warburton (R)

Members Absent: Rep. Edward B. Butcher, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Tony Belcourt (D)
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)

Staff Present: Todd Everts, Legislative Branch
Marshall McEwen, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 247, SB 130, SB 55, 1/22/2009

Executive Action: HB 368

HEARING ON HB 247

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:13 Rep. Bob Bergren (D), HD 33, opened the hearing on HB 247, Generally revise agriculture laws--re: definition of natural beef.

EXHIBIT (agh25a01)

00:01:16 Rep. Butcher entered the room.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:03:50 Joel Clairmont, Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:04:39 Chairman Jopek
00:05:04 Rep. Furey
00:05:30 Rep. Bergren
00:05:54 Rep. Kerns
00:06:02 Rep. Bergren
00:06:26 Rep. Regier
00:06:47 Rep. Bergren
00:07:03 Mr. Clairmont
00:07:09 Rep. Regier
00:07:28 Mr. Clairmont
00:07:56 Rep. Butcher
00:08:08 Mr. Clairmont
00:08:12 Rep. Taylor
00:08:30 Mr. Clairmont
00:08:54 Rep. Bean
00:09:28 Mr. Clairmont
00:09:52 Chairman Jopek

Closing by Sponsor:

00:10:04 Rep. Bergren
00:11:12 Chairman Jopek
00:12:28 Committee takes a break.
00:17:19 Committee reconvenes.

HEARING ON SB 55

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:17:58 Sen. Donald Steinbeisser (R), SD 19, opened the hearing
on SB 55, Generally revise fertilizer laws.
00:18:23 Rep. Dickenson entered the room.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:20:08 Ron de Yong, Director, Department of Agriculture
[EXHIBIT \(agh25a02\)](#)
00:30:27 Pam Langley, Executive Director, Montana Agricultural
Business Association

Opponents' Testimony:

00:34:46 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy
[EXHIBIT \(agh25a03\)](#)
00:36:05 Rep. Belcourt entered the room.

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:37:25 Rep. Dickenson
00:37:53 Mr. de Yong
00:38:19 Rep. Dickenson
00:38:22 Chairman Jopek
00:38:35 Rep. Furey
00:39:14 Mr. de Yong
00:40:11 Andy Gray, Bureau Chief, Commodities Division,
Department of Agriculture
00:41:21 Rep. Furey
00:41:51 Mr. Gray
00:42:42 Rep. Taylor
00:43:01 Mr. Gray
00:43:14 Rep. Taylor
00:43:32 Mr. Gray
00:44:23 Rep. Taylor
00:44:44 Mr. Gray
00:45:07 Chairman Jopek
00:45:20 Rep. Dickenson
00:45:47 Mr. de Yong
00:45:53 Rep. Dickenson
00:46:29 Mr. de Yong
00:47:10 Chairman Jopek

Closing by Sponsor:

00:47:24 Sen. Steinbeisser

00:48:17 Chairman Jopek

HEARING ON SB 130

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:49:13 Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D), SD 10, opened the hearing on SB 130, Repeal livestock entry transportation permit requirement.

EXHIBIT (agh25a04)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:52:22 Christian MacKay, Executive Officer, Montana Board of Livestock

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:54:57 Rep. Kerns

00:55:14 Mr. MacKay

00:55:35 Rep. Bean

00:56:00 Mr. MacKay

00:56:42 Rep. Belcourt

00:57:05 Mr. MacKay

00:58:21 Rep. Belcourt

00:58:59 Mr. MacKay

00:59:43 Chairman Jopek

Closing by Sponsor:

00:59:48 Sen. Hamlett

01:00:16 Chairman Jopek

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 368

01:01:30 **Motion:** Rep. Fleming moved that **HB 368 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:01:42 Chairman Jopek

01:01:47 Rep. Fleming

01:02:39 Chairman Jopek

01:03:02 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep.
Warburton voted by proxy.

01:03:19 Chairman Jopek

ADJOURNMENT

01:03:39 Adjournment: 4:03 P.M.

Marshall McEwen, Secretary

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Additional Exhibit:

EXHIBIT (agh25a05) Testimony on SB 55

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT (agh25aad.pdf)